

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Claims 1-6 (canceled).

Claim 7 (new): A method for modulating neuronal cell development in a mammal comprising the steps of (a) preparing a composition comprising a purified BMP-11 polypeptide; and (b) administering said composition to said mammal.

Claim 8 (new): The method as in claim 7, wherein the BMP-11 polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence from amino acid 7 to amino acid 108 of SEQ ID NO:11.

Claim 9 (new): The method as in claim 7, wherein the BMP-11 polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence from amino acid 1 to amino acid 109 of SEQ ID NO:11.

Claim 10 (new): A method for inducing neuronal cell formation, growth, differentiation, proliferation, and maintenance in a mammal comprising the steps of (a) preparing a composition comprising a purified BMP-11 polypeptide; and (b) administering said composition to said mammal.

Claim 11 (new): The method as in claim 10, wherein the BMP-11 polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence from amino acid 7 to amino acid 108 of SEQ ID NO:11.

Claim 12 (new): The method as in claim 10, wherein the BMP-11 polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence from amino acid 1 to amino acid 109 of SEQ ID NO:11.

Claim 13 (new): A method of inducing formation of neuronal tissue in a mammal comprising the steps of (a) preparing a composition comprising a purified BMP-11 polypeptide; and (b) administering said composition to said mammal.

Claim 14 (new): The method as in claim 13, wherein the BMP-11 polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence from amino acid 7 to amino acid 108 of SEQ ID NO:11.

Claim 15 (new): The method as in claim 13, wherein the BMP-11 polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence from amino acid 1 to amino acid 109 of SEQ ID NO:11.

Claim 16 (new): A method of inducing formation of neuronal tissue, wherein said method comprises the steps of (a) preparing a composition comprising a purified BMP-11 polypeptide; and (b) administering the composition to neuronal cells in vitro and recovering said tissue.

Claim 17 (new): The method as in claim 16, wherein the BMP-11 polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence from amino acid 7 to amino acid 108 of SEQ ID NO:11.

Claim 18 (new): The method as in claim 16, wherein the BMP-11 polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence from amino acid 1 to amino acid 109 of SEQ ID NO:11.

Claim 19 (new): A method for maintaining neuronal tissue comprising the steps of (a) preparing a composition comprising a purified BMP-11 polypeptide; and (b) administering said composition to said tissue.

Claim 20 (new): The method as in claim 19, wherein the BMP-11 polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence from amino acid 7 to amino acid 108 of SEQ ID NO:11.

Claim 21 (new): The method as in claim 19, wherein the BMP-11 polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence from amino acid 1 to amino acid 109 of SEQ ID NO:11.

Claim 22 (new): A method for maintaining neuronal tissue comprising the step of administering a composition comprising BMP-11.

Claim 23 (new): The method as in claim 22, wherein the BMP-11 polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence from amino acid 7 to amino acid 108 of SEQ ID NO:11.

Claim 24 (new): The method as in claim 22, wherein the BMP-11 polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence from amino acid 1 to amino acid 109 of SEQ ID NO:11.